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GENERAL CONFERENCE

Seventh session
Vienna, 1-5 December 1997
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1. Opening of the session

In accordance with rule 34 of the rules of procedure of the General Conference, the President of the sixth session, or, in his absence, the head of the delegation from which the President of that session was elected (Russian Federation), will open the seventh session of the General Conference.

Item 2. Election of officers[1]

At each regular session the Conference shall, with due regard for equitable geographical representation, elect, from among the representatives of Members, the following officers: a President and nine Vice-Presidents, as well as a Chairman for each Main Committee (rule 35). The officers elected shall constitute the General Committee.

(a) Election of the President

In accordance with rule 35 and appendix A of the rules of procedure, the President of the seventh session should be elected from the African States in List A of Annex I to the Constitution. However, following an agreement reached between the Members in List B and the Members from the African States in List A, the President of the fifth session which was to be elected from List B was elected from the African States in List A with the understanding that, for the seventh session, the President should be elected from List B.

(b) Election of other officers

The nine Vice-Presidents shall be elected so as to ensure the representative character of the General Committee (rule 35.3). Should the Conference decide to establish Main Committees (see item 4 below), the Conference shall also elect a Chairman for each Main Committee.

Item 3. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with Article 9.4 (g) of the Constitution, the Industrial Development Board at its seventeenth session adopted the provisional agenda for the seventh session of the General Conference, as reflected in decision IDB.17/Dec.9. The provisional agenda to be submitted to the Conference for approval is contained in document GC.7/1.

Item 4. Organization of work

The General Committee shall propose to the Conference the establishment of Main Committees and of any other sessional bodies of the Conference. It shall propose to the Conference the allocation of items between the plenary meetings, the Main Committees and any other sessional bodies (rule 42). In the past, at each regular

[1] To ensure equitable geographical distribution in the election of officers and the elections to organs, account has to be taken of the latest lists of States to be included in Annex I to the Constitution. The list, as of the date of preparation of the present document, is the same as that included in document IDB.17/17/Rev.1. Before proceeding to the elections, as explained in paragraph 2 of that document, the General Conference will have to decide in which of the lists of States (A, B, C or D) a number of new Member States are to be included.

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session the Conference established a Main Committee to which all the substantive items of the agenda were referred for a more focused debate aimed at the preparation of consensus draft decisions and resolutions for submission to the plenary. When considering the organization of work, it should be kept in mind that the budget for the Conference in the programme and budgets of UNIDO, 1996-1997, provides only for ten plenary meetings, five Main Committee meetings and five geographical group meetings.

Item 5. Credentials of representatives to the Conference

As stipulated in Article 8.1 of the Constitution of UNIDO, the Conference shall consist of representatives of all Members of the Organization. Membership in the Organization is defined in Article 3 of the Constitution. In accordance with rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the credentials of representatives and the names and titles of the other persons constituting the Member's delegation shall be submitted to the Director-General if possible not less than one week before the opening of the session which the delegation will attend. Any later change in the composition of the delegation also shall be submitted to the Director-General. The credentials of representatives shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Member concerned. A Permanent Representative to the Organization does not require special credentials if his/her letter of accreditation to the Organization specifies that he/she is authorized to represent his/her Government at sessions of the Conference, it being understood that this does not preclude that Government from accrediting another person as its representative by means of special credentials.

A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference on the proposal of the President. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the United Nations General Assembly at its fifty-second session, which is as follows: Argentina, Barbados, Bhutan, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Norway, Russian Federation, United States of America and Zambia. The Committee shall examine the credentials of representatives and report without delay to the Conference which shall decide any question arising (rule 28).

Item 6. Elections to organs[2]

(a) **Industrial Development Board**

In accordance with Article 9.1 of the Constitution, the Industrial Development Board shall consist of 53 Members of the Organization elected by the Conference, which shall give due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. In electing the members of the Board, the Conference shall observe the following distribution of seats: 33 members of the Board shall be elected from the States listed in Lists A and C, 15 from the States listed in List B, and 5 from the States listed in List D of Annex I to the Constitution.

In accordance with Article 9.2 of the Constitution, "members of the Board shall hold office from the close of the regular session of the Conference at which they were elected until the close of the regular session of the Conference four years thereafter... Members of the Board may be re-elected."

At present the Board is composed of the following States: Algeria,* Argentina,* Austria,* Belgium,** Brazil,** Bulgaria,** Cape Verde,** China,** Colombia,** Côte d'Ivoire,* Cuba,* Denmark,** Ecuador,* Egypt,* France,** Germany,** Ghana,** Greece,** Hungary,** India,* Indonesia,** Iran, Islamic Republic of,* Italy,** Japan,** Kenya,** Lebanon,* Mexico,* Morocco,** Netherlands,* Nicaragua,* Nigeria,* Pakistan,** Paraguay,** Peru,** Philippines,* Poland,* Portugal,* Qatar,* Republic of Korea,** Romania,** Russian Federation,* Saudi Arabia,* Sierra Leone,** Spain,* Sudan,* Sweden,* Switzerland,* Tunisia,** Turkey,* Uganda,* United Arab Emirates,** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,** Zambia.*

(b) **Programme and Budget Committee**

In accordance with Article 10.1 of the Constitution, the Programme and Budget Committee shall consist of 27 Members of the Organization elected by the Conference, which shall give due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. In electing the members of the Committee, the Conference shall observe the following distribution of seats: 15 members of the Committee shall be elected from the States listed in Lists A and C, 9 from the States listed in List B and 3 from the States listed in List D of Annex I to the Constitution.

In accordance with Article 10.2, "members of the Committee shall hold office from the close of the regular session of the Conference at which they were elected until the close of the regular session of the Conference two

[2] See footnote 1 above.

* Twenty-seven States whose term of office expires at the close of the seventh regular session of the General Conference, in 1997 (see decision GC.5/Dec.7 of 9 December 1993).

** Twenty-six States whose term of office expires at the close of the eighth regular session of the General Conference, in 1999 (see decision GC.6/Dec.8 of 8 December 1995).

years thereafter. Members of the Committee may be re-elected."

At its sixth session, the Conference elected the following States to hold office until the close of the seventh regular session of the Conference in December 1997: Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mexico, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Uruguay.

Other stipulations concerning the election of the members of the Industrial Development Board and the Programme and Budget Committee are contained in rule 102 of the rules of procedure of the General Conference.

Item 7. Reports of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth regular sessions and of its seventh special session

In accordance with Article 9.4 (c) of the Constitution, the Board shall report to the Conference at each regular session on the activities of the Board.

Since the closure of the sixth session of the General Conference, the Board will have held four regular and one special session. The Conference will thus have before it the following reports of those sessions:

- Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its fifteenth session, 6-9 May 1996 (GC.7/2)
- Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its sixteenth session, 20-22 November 1996 (GC.7/3)
- Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its seventh special session, 21-25 April 1997 (GC.7/4)
- Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its seventeenth session, 23-27 June 1997 (GC.7/5)
- Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of part one of its eighteenth session, 12 September 1997 (GC.7/6)
- Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its resumed eighteenth session, November 1997 (GC.7/6/Add.1)

Item 8. Annual reports of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization for 1995 and 1996

In accordance with rule 13.1 (b), the provisional agenda for each regular session of the Conference shall include the annual reports of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization. The Conference will thus have before it the annual reports of UNIDO for 1995 and 1996, which were submitted to the Board at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions.

In resolution GC.6/Res.2, the Conference requested the Director-General to adapt, beginning with the Annual Report of UNIDO, 1995, the annual report into a consolidated report covering (i) new technical cooperation programmes, (ii) progress on current programmes and (iii) an assessment of completed programmes. The implications for the structure of the annual report of the requirements stipulated in that resolution were discussed with Permanent Missions in a briefing held on 5 June 1996.

In decision IDB.16/Dec.2, the Board took note of a report of the Director-General on the initial proposal of the Government of Turkey for the establishment of an international centre for hydrogen energy technologies (IDB.16/26), financed exclusively by voluntary contributions to UNIDO, as an autonomous technological institution, within the legal framework of UNIDO. The Board requested the Director-General to pursue the discussions with the Turkish authorities for the eventual establishment and long-term operation of the centre. The Board invited the General Conference at its seventh session to take note of decision IDB.16/Dec.2. Subsequently, in response to a request of the Board in the same decision, the Director-General reported on further progress made in the establishment of the centre (GC.7/7).

The Conference will have before it:

- *Annual Report of UNIDO 1995* (including programme performance report) (IDB.16/10, Add.1, Add.2 and Corrigendum)
- *Annual Report of UNIDO 1996* (including programme performance report) (IDB.17/10, Add.1 and Add.2)
- Arrangements for the establishment of an international centre for hydrogen energy technologies. Report by the Director-General (IDB.16/26)
- Board decision IDB.16/Dec.2 on arrangements for the establishment of an international centre for hydrogen energy technologies

- Establishment of an international centre for hydrogen energy technologies. Report by the Director-General (GC.7/7)

Item 9. Policy framework of UNIDO

Resolution GC.6/Res.1 adopted by the Conference at its sixth session commended the Director-General and UNIDO staff for the efforts made so far to reform and progress towards a more efficient and leaner Organization. The resolution expressed support for the role of UNIDO in specific areas and provided a mandate for the Director-General to continue to implement the reform process. The Director-General was also requested to pay due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution, to keep Member States informed on the implementation of the reform and to report to the Conference at its seventh session through the Board on the implementation of resolution GC.6/Res.1.

Following developments subsequent to the sixteenth session of the Board and at the request of Mr. S. K. Lee (Republic of Korea), President of the sixteenth session, in accordance with rule 4.2, the seventh special session was convened from 21 to 25 April 1997 for the sole purpose of discussing the future of UNIDO. At that session, the Board decided to establish an intersessional working group with equitable geographical representation, under the chairmanship of Mr. I. Posta (Hungary) (IDB/S.7/Dec.3). In the same decision, the Board invited Member States to continue to contribute to the formulation of basic parameters to guide the work in adapting the Organization to new economic realities.

Following the submission of the report of the intersessional working group to the seventeenth session, the Board adopted the business plan on the future role and functions of UNIDO, as contained in the annex to decision IDB.17/Dec.2. The Board requested the intersessional working group to continue its work under the chairmanship of Mr. Posta and also requested the group in particular to further develop, in consultation with the Secretariat, a set of criteria and indicators that would allow the future assessment of the implications and monitoring of the implementation of the UNIDO reform process, including the performance of the Organization, in particular through the programme and budget. The Board further requested the chairman of the intersessional working group to report to the Board before the seventh session of the General Conference.

The Conference will have before it:

- Intersessional working group on the future role and functions of UNIDO. Report of the Chairman (Mr. I. Posta, Hungary, President, Industrial Development Board) (IDB.18/17)

- Follow-up to the seventh special session: Draft business plan of the intersessional working group on the future role and functions of UNIDO. Report of the Chairman, Mr. I. Posta (Hungary), Vice-President, Industrial Development Board (IDB.17/25)

- Implementation of the UNIDO reform. Report by the Director-General (IDB.17/19)

- Report on the implementation of the UNIDO reform. Action taken since April 1996. Report by the Director-General (IDB.16/18)

- Concluding the reform of UNIDO. Action taken in the first quarter of 1996. Report by the Director-General (IDB.15/14)

Item 10. Financial matters

(a) **Financial situation of UNIDO**

The Conference will have a report by the Director-General showing the financial situation of UNIDO as of 31 October 1997 (to be updated immediately before the opening of the session). The report will contain a cash flow analysis for 1997, including the status of assessed contributions to the regular budget and the status of advances to the Working Capital Fund.

(b) **Scale of assessments of Member States**

In accordance with rule 13.1 (k) of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the provisional agenda for each regular session of the Conference shall include recommendations of the Board for the establishment of the scale of assessments. Article 15 of the Constitution stipulates that regular budget expenditures shall be borne by the Members, as apportioned in accordance with a scale of assessments established by the Conference by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting, upon the recommendation of the Board. That Article also stipulates that the scale of assessments shall be based to the extent possible on the scale most recently employed by the United Nations and that no Member shall be assessed more than 25 per cent of the regular budget of the Organization.

The Conference will have before it the recommendations of the Board, based on conclusion 97/5 of the Programme and Budget Committee (PBC) concerning the scale of assessments for 1998-1999.

(c) **Working Capital Fund**

In accordance with financial regulation 5.4, upon recommendation of the Programme and Budget

Committee and subsequently the Board, the Conference shall determine the amount and purposes of the Working Capital Fund. Financial regulation 5.5 (d) stipulates that advances to the Working Capital Fund shall be assessed and paid in United States dollars.

At its sixth session, the Conference in its decision GC.6/Dec.16 decided that for the 1996-1997 biennium the level of the Working Capital Fund and the authorized purposes of the Fund should remain the same as for the previous bienniums (see decision GC.2/Dec.27).

The Conference will have to take action on the recommendations of the Board concerning the level and purposes of the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1998-1999, as contained in a Board decision to be adopted at its resumed eighteenth session, based on PBC conclusion 97/6.

The Conference will have before it:

- Status of advances to the Working Capital Fund as of 31 October 1997 (see item 10 (a) above)

(d) **Appointment of external auditor**

In accordance with financial regulation 11.1, an external auditor, who shall be Auditor-General (or an officer exercising an equivalent function) of a Member State, shall be appointed in the manner and for the period decided by the Conference. By decision GC.5/Dec.17 the Conference decided to appoint the President of the Federal Court of Audit of Germany as the External Auditor of UNIDO for a period of two years beginning 1 July 1994, and subsequently by decision GC.6/Dec.18 it extended that appointment until 30 June 1998.

In decision GC.6/Dec.18 the Conference requested the Director-General, in future, to invite proposals from Member States for the appointment of an external auditor and to submit such proposals to the PBC for consideration. In a note verbale dated 6 December 1996, Member States were invited to inform the Director-General of their interest in providing the services of an External Auditor. Following the seventh special session of the Board, a further note verbale dated 7 May 1997 invited proposals from Member States. Detailed background information was provided to the PBC in document PBC.13/2.

The Conference will thus have before it the recommendations of the Board on the appointment of an external auditor for the period 1 July 1998 to 30 June 2000, based on PBC conclusion 97/8.

Item 11. Industrial Development Fund

Information on the activities of the Fund is included in the annual reports of the Organization for 1995 and 1996 and in documents IDB.16/3 and IDB.18/9. Following the precedent established in previous sessions of the Conference in order to save time and money, the pledges to the Fund in 1997 will be made in writing, and the results announced at the end of the seventh session of the General Conference.

The Conference will have before it:

- Industrial Development Fund and other voluntary contributions. Report by the Director-General (IDB.18/9)

- Industrial Development Fund. Estimated resource level and programme for 1997-1998. Report by the Director-General (IDB.16/3)

- Information on the nature of projects financed from the Industrial Development Fund, contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1996* (IDB.17/10, Add.1, appendix C)

- Information on the nature of projects financed from the Industrial Development Fund, contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1995* (IDB.16/10, Add.1, appendix C)

Item 12. Financial Regulations of UNIDO

The Financial Regulations of UNIDO approved by the General Conference at its second session (decision GC.2/Dec.25) were subsequently amended as follows:

Financial regulation	General Conference decision/resolution
4.2 (b) and 4.2 (c)	GC.3/Dec.21 (23 November 1989)
4.1 5.2(e) 5.3	GC.4/Res.23 (22 November 1991)
4.1	GC.5/Dec.15 (9 December 1993)

At its fifteenth session, in decision IDB.15/Dec.3 on implementation of the programme and budgets, 1996-1997, the Board decided "to review the provisions of financial regulations relating to the budgeting process with a view to assuring the necessary flexibility, by recommending, when necesssary, to the General Conference the amendment of those provisions in order to

facilitate the adoption of revised estimates and adjustments of approved budgets between regular sessions of the Conference as well as to ensure adequate budgetary control on the transfer of appropriations among major programmes." In a report to the Board on financial regulations (IDB.16/6), the Director-General proposed a first set of amendments.

An informal working group established by the Board in decision IDB.16/Dec.9 and chaired by Mr. F. Mayrhofer-Grünbühel (Austria) examined the proposals and reported to the Board at its eighteenth session through the Programme and Budget Committee (IDB.18/8-PBC.13/6). Based on the recommendations of the working group, the Committee recommended that the Board submit to the General Conference for consideration and adoption the amendments to financial regulations 3.4(a), 5.1(d), 5.2(b), 10.1(b), 10.2(a) and 10.2(c), as set out in the texts contained in the annex to PBC conclusion 97/3.

The Conference will thus have before it the recommendations of the Board based on Programme and Budget Committee conclusion 97/3.

Item 13. Medium-term programme framework, 1998-2001

In decision GC.6/Dec.10, the Conference took note of the medium-term plan, 1996-2001, as submitted in accordance with General Conference decision GC.2/Dec.23 and contained in document IDB.13/19. The Conference decided in future to rename the "medium-term plan" the "medium-term programme framework", and to reduce its coverage to four years. The Conference further decided, in light of Board decision IDB.14/Dec.27, that in the event that the cash resources availability for the biennium 1996-1997 changed significantly resulting in a curtailment of the assumptions contained in document IDB.14/29, to present a revised version of the medium-term programme framework.

Pursuant to General Conference decisions GC.2/Dec.23 and GC.6/Dec.10, the Director-General submitted to the Board in the first year of the fiscal period 1996-1997, through the Programme and Budget Committee, a draft medium-term programme framework for the years 1998-2001 (IDB.16/23). In compliance with subparagraph (b)(v)d of decision GC.2/Dec.23, the Director-General also submitted a preview of the first biennium 1998-1999 and preliminary indicative general ceiling (IDB.16/23/Add.1). At its sixteenth session, the Board recommended to the Conference the approval of the draft medium-term programme framework, 1998-2001, as contained in that document (decision IDB.16/Dec.12).

The Conference will have before it:

- Board decision IDB.16/Dec. 12

- Draft medium-term programme framework, 1998-2001. Proposals of the Director-General (IDB.16/23)

- Preview of the first biennium (1998-1999) and preliminary indicative general ceiling. Submitted by the Director-General (IDB.16/23/Add.1)

Item 14. Programme and budgets, 1998-1999

In accordance with Article 14.4 of the Constitution, the Conference shall consider and approve the programme of work and the corresponding regular budget and operational budget submitted to it by the Board, by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting.

The Conference will thus have before it the recommendations of the Board related to the programme and budgets, 1998-1999. Such recommendations will be adopted by the Board at its resumed eighteenth session and will be based on a PBC conclusion to be adopted at its resumed thirteenth session.

Item 15. Development of human resources for industry

At its sixth session, the Conference in resolution GC.6/Res.4 requested the Director-General to implement a number of specific measures in UNIDO activities for development of human resources for industry. The Conference further requested the Director-General to report on the implementation of that resolution through the Industrial Development Board.

The Conference will have before it:

- Development of human resources for industry. Report by the Director-General (GC.7/10-IDB.17/6)

- Human resources development. Information contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1996* (IDB.17/10, chap. III.D)

- Human resources development. Information contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1995* (IDB.16/10, chap. III.D)

Item 16. Integration of women in industrial development

Resolution GC.6/Res.5 adopted by the Conference at its sixth session reaffirmed the renewed importance of

the integration of women in industrial development in the context of the UNIDO response to the Platform for Action: Equality, Development and Peace, adopted at Beijing at the Fourth World Conference on Women. The resolution contained also a number of specific requests to the Director-General, including the development of a specific follow-up plan of action for UNIDO. The documentation on the item includes references to activities undertaken within the follow-up plan of action for UNIDO developed by the Secretariat.

The Conference will have before it:

- Integration of women in industrial development. Programmes and activities, 1996-1997. Report by the Director-General (GC.7/8-IDB.17/3)

- Integration of women in industrial development. Information contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1996* (IDB.17/10, chap. III.E)

- Integration of women in industrial development. Information contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1995* (IDB.16/10, chap. III.E)

Item 17. Environmentally sustainable industrial development

In addition to endorsing Board decision IDB.13/Dec.7, the Conference at its sixth session in resolution GC.6/Res.6 requested the Director-General to develop a technical cooperation programme to support developing countries in enabling them to effectively apply relevant ISO standards. The Conference also requested the Director-General to provide assistance to developing countries to enable them to support the necessary adjustment of national industrial production and related services to the internationally agreed eco-labelling requirements.

The Conference will have before it:

- Environmentally sustainable industrial development. Report by the Director-General (GC.7/11-IDB.17/8)

Item 18. Industrialization of the least developed countries

In adopting resolution GC.6/Res.8 at its sixth session, the General Conference called upon the Member States, the international community and the Director-General to address specific aspects related to the industrial development of the least developed countries. In the same resolution, the Conference requested the Director-General to provide progress reports on the implementation of the programme to the sessions of the Board. In compliance with that request, reports were submitted to the Board at its fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth sessions. As requested in paragraph 3 (c) of resolution GC.6/Res.8, the Conference will have before it a report by the Director-General on the implementation of that resolution.

The Conference will have before it:

- Implementation of the least developed countries programme. Progress report by the Director-General (GC.7/9-IDB.17/4, GC.7/9/Add.1),

- Implementation of the UNIDO programme for the least developed countries. Report by the Director-General (IDB.16/13)

- Implementation of the least developed countries programme. Progress report by the Director-General (IDB.15/10)

- Least developed countries. Information contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1996* (IDB.17/10, chap. V.G)

- Least developed countries. Information contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1995* (IDB.16/10, chap. V.G)

Item 19. Private sector development

At its sixth session, the General Conference adopted resolution GC.6/Res.9, which contained preambular text linking the role of the private sector with various aspects related to industrial development. The Conference also requested the Director-General, in the implementation of the UNIDO programme for private sector development, industrial restructuring, rehabilitation and modernization, to take certain measures specified by the Conference.

The Conference will have before it:

- Private sector development. Report by the Director-General (GC.7/12-IDB.17/11)

Item 20. Industrial investment promotion

In its consideration of agenda item 15 on preparations for the seventh session of the General Conference, the Board at its sixteenth session agreed to include an additional agenda item entitled "Industrial investment promotion" in the list of items of the draft provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Conference (GC.7/3, para. 39).

The Conference will have before it:

- Industrial investment promotion. Report by the Director-General (GC.7/17-IDB.17/23)

- Industrial investment promotion. Report by the Director-General (IDB.16/11)

- Investment promotion network. Information contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1996* (IDB.17/10, chap. IV.F)

- Investment promotion network. Information contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1995* (IDB.16/10, chap. IV.F)

Item 21. The regional dimension

(a) **Africa (in particular the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa)**

In resolution GC.6/Res.11, the Conference at its sixth session invited international, regional and sub-regional financial institutions to allocate substantial resources for the implementation of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA). The Conference also requested the Director-General to take specific measures in implementing the programme for IDDA. Furthermore, the Conference requested the Director-General to provide progress reports to the sessions of the Board on the implementation of the programme for the Second IDDA, and to report on the implementation of resolution GC.6/Res.11.

In decision IDB.15/Dec.6, the Board, *inter alia*, requested the Director-General to elaborate further on the concept of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, and to submit a report to the sixteenth session of the Board. At its sixteenth session, the Board adopted decision IDB.16/Dec.13, which contained, *inter alia*, mandates relevant to the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization. In decision IDB.17/Dec.4, the Board endorsed the Plan of Action for the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization as the implementation mechanism for a refocused Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa programme, and requested the Director-General to ensure that the Plan of Action serves as a framework for the future activities of UNIDO in Africa, particularly for its least developed countries.

The Conference will have before it:

- Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa. Report by the Director-General (GC.7/16-IDB.17/22)

- African common position for the seventh session of the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Vienna, December 1997 (GC.7/18)

- Alliance for Africa's Industrialization. Report by the Director-General (IDB.17/26)

- Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa. Progress report by the Director-General (IDB.15/6)

- Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa. Note by the Secretariat (IDB.16/15)

- Alliance for Africa's Industrialization. Report by the Director-General (IDB.16/16 and Add.1)

- Implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002). Report of the Secretary-General (A/52/480)

- The regional dimension. Africa. Information contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1996* (IDB.17/10, chap. V.B)

- The regional dimension. Africa. Information contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 1995* (IDB.16/10, chap. V.B)

(b) **Arab countries programme, including technical assistance to the Palestinian people**

In resolution GC.6/Res.12 adopted at its sixth session, the Conference highlighted specific aspects of the programme for industrial development of the Arab countries, and requested the Director-General to report on the implementation of that resolution through the Board. Thus, the Conference will have before it a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the measures called for in resolution GC.6/Res.12.

The Conference will have before it:

- Arab countries programme for industrial development, including technical assistance to the Palestinian people. Report by the Director-General (GC.7/13-IDB.17/16)

(c) **Asia and the Pacific**

In compliance with resolution GC.6/Res.13 on the Special Programme for the Industrial Development of

Asia and the Pacific, the Conference will have before it a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the measures called for in that resolution. The report also provides information on other UNIDO activities in favour of countries in the region.

The Conference will have before it:

- UNIDO activities in Asia and the Pacific. Report by the Director-General (GC.7/15-IDB.17/20)

(d) **Latin America and the Caribbean**

At its sixth session, the General Conference adopted resolution GC.6/Res.14, which requested the Director-General to undertake a number of measures with respect to activities carried out for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. In compliance with that resolution, the Conference will have before it a report by the Director-General on the implementation of those measures.

The Conference will have before it:

- UNIDO activities in Latin America and the Caribbean. Report by the Director-General (GC.7/14-IDB.17/18)

Item 22. Geographical distribution of Managing Directors

In its consideration of agenda item 15 on preparations for the seventh session of the General Conference, the Board at its sixteenth session agreed to include an additional agenda item entitled "Geographical distribution of Managing Directors" in the list of items of the draft provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Conference (GC.7/3, para. 39).

Item 23. Personnel matters: United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

The Conference will have to take action on the recommendation of the Board (IDB.17/Dec.6) concerning candidates for election to the **UNIDO Staff Pension Committee** for the years 1998 and 1999. The Conference may also wish to authorize the Board to proceed with the election for any Committee posts which might become vacant before the Conference holds its eighth session.

The Conference will have before it:

- Board decision IDB.17/Dec.6 on the UNIDO Staff Pension Committee

Item 24. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations

In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the provisional agenda for each regular session of the Conference shall include reports from specialized and related agencies and from other intergovernmental organizations with which UNIDO has concluded a relationship agreement pursuant to Article 19.1 (a) of the Constitution, and items proposed by them, where the agreement establishing the relationship with the organization concerned so provides.

Furthermore, in the guidelines for the relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations adopted by the General Conference at its first session (decision GC.1/Dec.41, annex), it is stipulated that the Director-General shall report to the Conference at each regular session on any agreements with intergovernmental and governmental organizations entered into by him on behalf of the Organization since the preceding regular session as well as on any consultative relations established with non-governmental organizations in the same period.

The Conference will thus have before it decisions IDB.15/Dec.10, IDB.15/Dec.11, IDB.17/Dec.7 and IDB.17/Dec.8 adopted by the Board on the subject at its fifteenth and seventeenth sessions and a note by the Director-General on developments that have taken place since the sixth session of the Conference.

Item 25. Appointment of the Director-General

In accordance with Article 11.2 of the Constitution, the Director-General shall be appointed by the Conference upon recommendation of the Board for a period of four years. Rule 103.4 of the rules of procedure of the Conference stipulates that the Conference shall also consider a draft contract, submitted to it at the same time by the Board for approval, establishing the terms and conditions of appointment of the Director-General, including the salary and other emoluments attached to the office. When approved by the Conference, the contract of appointment shall be signed by the new Director-General and by the President of the Conference, acting in the name of the Organization.

The procedure to be followed by the Conference for the appointment of the Director-General is contained in rule 104.

At its eighteenth session, the Board decided to recommend to the Conference the appointment of

Carlos Alfredo Magariños as Director-General of UNIDO for a period of four years from the eighth day of December 1997 or until the Director-General appointed at the ninth regular session of the Conference assumes office, whichever is later. The Board will consider at its resumed eighteenth session a draft contract establishing the terms and conditions of appointment of the Director-General.

The Conference will have before it:

- Board decision IDB.18/Dec.1 on the recommendation of a candidate for the post of Director-General

- A Board recommendation to be adopted at its resumed eighteenth session on the terms and conditions of appointment of the Director-General

Item 26. Date and place of the eighth session

Article 8.2 (a) of the Constitution stipulates that the Conference shall hold a regular session every two years, unless it decides otherwise. In the proposals of the Director-General for 1998-1999, provisions will be made for the holding of the eighth session of the General Conference for a duration of five working days. The dates of 22 to 26 November 1999 or 29 November to 3 December 1999 have been scheduled tentatively for the eighth session of the Conference.

Item 27. Closure of the session